



EarthCorps/NOAA Community-based Restoration Program REQUEST FOR FUNDING PROPOSALS 2005 Deadline: Sept. 30, 2004

EarthCorps is pleased to announce our Partnership with the NOAA Community-Based Restoration Program (NOAA-CRP). Through this partnership, EarthCorps is inviting individuals and organizations to submit proposals for EarthCorps participation in habitat restoration projects in the Puget Sound Region. The NOAA-CRP provides financial and technical assistance to local efforts to restore marine, estuarine and riparian habitats, including salt marshes, eelgrass beds and freshwater habitats.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

EC/NOAA-CRP awards are available to non-profit organizations, local and state agencies, educational institutions, tribal agencies, and community volunteer groups. Non-profit organizations must provide proof of nonprofit status (i.e. 501(c)(3) documentation from the IRS)

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Projects must demonstrate significant benefits to commercial and recreational fishery resources, including marine, estuarine or anadromous species (fish, like salmon, that spawn in fresh water and then migrate to the sea), and/or endangered and threatened marine species and their habitats (Puget Sound chinook or Hood Canal summer chum salmon, for example). The EarthCorps/NOAA-CRP Partnership is a pilot program to evaluate the use and efficacy of Conservation Corps in performing CRP projects; therefore, **all projects must include significant field implementation component**, to be performed by EarthCorps as the primary contractor.

Projects will be selected based on technical merit, level of community involvement, educational and outreach opportunities and ecological benefits to living marine resources. Restoration activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Near-shore habitat restoration to enhance feeding, spawning, and rearing of marine species (salt marsh restoration, eelgrass restoration, shellfish restoration, invasive plant control, nearshore reforestation, bulkhead removal, etc);
- Improvement or reestablishment of fish passage (creek mouth restoration with multiple species benefits are preferred);
- Improvement of freshwater habitat features in watersheds that support anadromous fish (in-stream restoration and improvement of riparian buffer zones).

Ideal projects will include a monitoring program to evaluate project success that is consistent with NOAA Restoration Center's minimum monitoring requirements:

http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects_programs/crp/partners_funding/project_reports.html

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

Total funding anticipated from the 2005 NOAA-CRP partnership will range from \$150,000–\$200,000. Anticipated sub-awards will range from \$25,000–\$40,000, however, smaller and larger projects will also be considered. Projects must be completed by the end of 2005.

Eligible budget items include:

- On-site labor and project management by EarthCorps;
- Project supplies (planting materials, soil/amendment, bioengineering materials, etc.)
- Monitoring equipment and labor
- Contracted equipment, labor, and professional services (heavy equipment rental and operation, engineering, etc.)
- Limited funding to support direct project-related costs of partner groups

Grantees must provide at least 1:1 match to requested funds. Match may be cash or in-kind donation of materials or services. Funding awarded prior to Jan. 1, 2005 and all federal funds are ineligible as match.

PERMIT AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

NOAA/Earthcorps awards are a federal funding action, and constitute a 'federal nexus' for purposes of environmental review. For each award, NOAA Restoration Center may be required to assess the potential impacts of project actions as mandated by federal statutes, including the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Uncontroversial restoration actions with predictable impacts do not typically trigger extensive review procedures. However, projects must be compliant with all federal, state and local regulatory requirements prior to implementation. Project proponents are expected to take prompt leadership in identifying and meeting all regulatory requirements when operating under federal funding. Support will be provided for Endangered Species Act (ESA) and essential fish habitat (EFH) consultations with NOAA trust species. For more information on how federal environmental compliance may affect your project please contact Paul Cereghino (paul.r.cereghino@noaa.gov)

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

To apply, submit a Grant Cover Sheet (attached) and a short pre-proposal with the following information:

Project narrative (2 pages or less):

- Site history and problem statement, concluding in:
 1. Identification of project goals and objectives
 2. Identification of benefits to specific NOAA trust species populations
- Description of proposed restoration project, including:
 1. Precise description of the planned scope and nature of tasks
 2. Description of how project success will be evaluated

Attachments:

- Timeline and work plan for the project, including detailed steps necessary to complete the project, person responsible and estimated date of completion for each step (see template, attached).
- Budget (see template, attached).
- Map of site location and work boundaries
- Working drawings if available
- Letter(s) of support from landowners and essential project partners
- A list of permits that will be obtained and their status

Please submit 1 electronic copy of your application no later than 5:00 PM on September 30, 2004. Working drawings and copies of letters may be submitted in paper format. Early submissions are encouraged to enable site visits prior to October 31, 2004. Notification of selected projects will take place by December 31, 2004. Further information will be requested, as necessary. Funds availability is dependant on congressional appropriations, which can be significantly delayed.

PROPOSAL EVALUATION

Projects will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. **Benefit to living marine resources**, consistent with NOAA's regional restoration priorities. Typical projects include near-shore, estuary, inter-tidal, wetland and riparian restoration projects in areas of known marine (includes anadromous) fisheries habitat. Projects ideally provide enduring benefits to a diversity of marine-dependant species.
2. **Technical feasibility**. Projects must offer a powerful and enduring social and ecological benefit per dollar spent, be completed during the granting period (2005), and provide for long-term stewardship and monitoring
3. **Community involvement**. To ensure community stewardship, project implementation must maximize opportunities for volunteer participation and broad-based, community involvement and support.
4. **Enhancement of EarthCorps Mission**. Projects must provide opportunities to learn, apply, and improve restoration techniques. Funded tasks should be within the capacity of EarthCorps and their contractors (visit the EarthCorps website – www.earthcorps.org – to learn more about EarthCorps' environmental restoration services and youth training programs).
5. **Matching contributions**. Proposals must include a 1:1 or greater match. Composition of match may include cash or in-kind donation of materials or services.
6. **Environmental regulatory compliance**. Copies of permits and/or a statement explaining a timeline for obtaining all federal, state and local permits must be included with your application.

QUESTIONS?

Visit the EarthCorps website at www.earthcorps.org or contact Liz Stenning, EarthCorps Field Operations

Director, by email liz@earthcorps.org Further information about the NOAA Community-Based Restoration Program can be found at www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration



EarthCorps/NOAA-CRP GRANT COVER SHEET

Organization/Agency Name:	
Executive Director/Agency Director:	
Mailing Address:	
Street Address (if different):	
Telephone:	
Fax:	
E-mail:	
Web Site:	
Contact Person:	
Contact Telephone:	
Contact Email:	
Executive Summary (200 words or less):	
Request Amount:	



EarthCorps/NOAA-CRP PROJECT BUDGET

	REQUEST	MATCH	TOTAL	SOURCE OF MATCH*
1. Personnel (paid staff)				
Non-EarthCorps Staff				
EarthCorps:				
Project Management CRP @ \$17/hr				
Project Management MATCH @ \$35/hr				
Fringe Benefits @25% of Project Mgmt.				
Crew Management CRP @ \$1,025/day				
Crew Days MATCH @ \$925/day				
3. Volunteer Labor/Services @ \$15/hr				
Community Volunteers				
4. Travel/Mileage @ \$0.36/mile				
(Specify)				
5. Project Supplies				
(Specify)				
6. Other Professional Services				
(Specify)				
7. Other Project Expenses				
(Specify)				
TOTAL				

** List SECURED match only, not projected*



EarthCorps/NOAA-CRP TIMELINE AND WORKPLAN

[illegible]